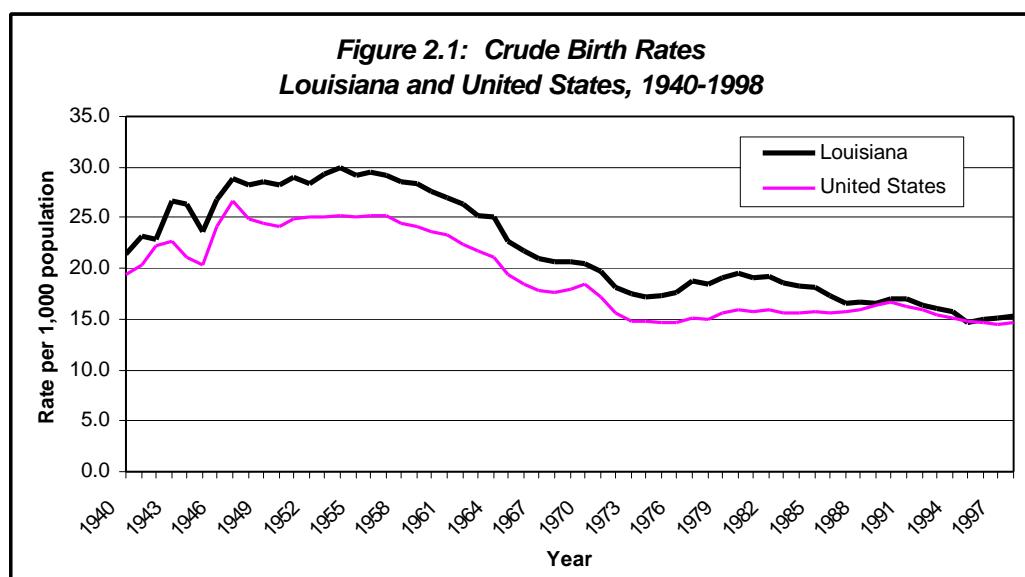


II. Live Births

Live birth is a birth that shows any sign of life after delivery, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy. Sign of life is considered breathing or showing any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or the definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached. **Crude birth rates** are a measure of the number of live births in a population during a given period of time. Birth rates are calculated by dividing the number of live births occurring in a given population during one year by the estimated population, then multiplying the quotient by 1,000. Because crude birth rates relate the number of live births to the total population in an area, without regard to the age or sex distribution of the population, they are useful in projecting population changes in the area and in comparing areas of different total population.

In 1998, there were 66,773 live births to Louisiana residents, an increase from the 65,947 Louisiana resident births in 1997 (up 1.25%). At the national level there was also an increase (1.63%) in the number of births between 1997 and 1998. Louisiana's 1998 crude birth rate was 15.3 live births per 1,000 population. This rate was similar to both the 1997 Louisiana rate (15.2) and the 1998 national rate (14.6).



Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

Live Births

**Table 2.1: Birth Counts, Percent Changes, and Crude Birth Rates
Louisiana and United States, 1989-1998**

Year	Louisiana			United States**	
	Number	Percent Change From Previous Year	Rate*	Percent Change From Previous Year	Rate*
1989	72639	-1.69%	16.6	2.63%	16.4
1990	72121	-0.71%	17.1	3.36%	16.7
1991	72080	-0.06%	17.0	2.90%	16.3
1992	70502	-2.19%	16.4	-1.14%	15.9
1993	69328	-1.67%	16.1	-2.69%	15.5
1994	67802	-2.20%	15.7	-1.19%	15.2
1995	65574	-3.29%	14.7	-1.35%	14.8
1996	65186	-0.59%	15.0	-0.21%	14.7
1997	65947	1.17%	15.2	-0.27%	14.5
1998	66773	1.25%	15.3	1.63%	14.6

*Rate per 1,000 population

**United States data for 1998 are preliminary

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

T e e n B i r t h s

A **teen birth** is defined as a birth to a mother under the age of 20 years. Despite an overall decrease in teen birth rates over the last two decades, teenage pregnancy continues to be a problem for the nation. When compared with mothers in other age groups, teen mothers are less likely to receive adequate prenatal care and are more likely to give birth to low birthweight infants.¹ These infants are more likely to be hospitalized and go on to have childhood health problems. Nationally, most (76%) births to teens occur outside of marriage, and 25%² of teenage mothers go on to have more children within the next two years. These factors, combined with the fact that teenage mothers are less likely to finish high school, contribute to the high proportion of women living in poverty who first gave birth during adolescence. In 1993, of the 3.8 million mothers nationwide aged 15-44 who received welfare or Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), 55% first became mothers as teenagers.³ In fiscal year 1995, Louisiana spent over \$875 million on programs that support families begun by teens (in the form of AFDC, Food Stamps, WIC, and Medicaid). In contrast, Louisiana spent only \$5.7 million on programs designed to prevent teenage pregnancy.⁴

Year	Louisiana		United States+	
	Under 15**	15-19 Years	Under 15**	15-19 Years
1989	2.4	70.9	1.4	57.3
1990	2.4	74.8	1.4	59.9
1991	2.6	75.9	1.4	62.1
1992	2.3	75.8	1.4	60.7
1993	2.4	75.7	1.4	59.6
1994	2.3	74.2	1.4	58.9
1995	2.0	69.8	1.3	56.8
1996	2.2	66.6	1.2	54.4
1997	1.8	66.1	1.1	52.3
1998	1.9	65.2	1.0	51.1

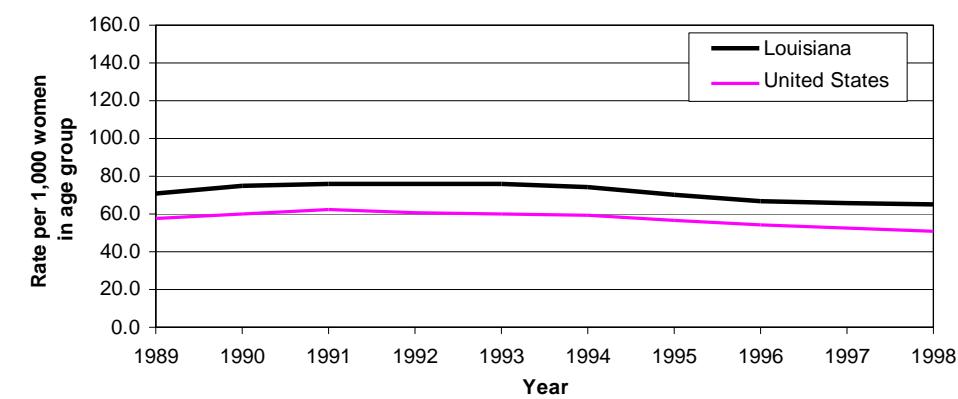
*Rate per 1,000 women in age group

+United States data for 1998 are preliminary

**Numerator is all live births to women under 15 years of age; denominator is the female population 10-14 years of age.

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

Figure 2.2: Teens Aged 15-19: Age-Specific Birth Rates
Louisiana and United States, 1989-1998



Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

¹ Lewis CT, Mathews TJ, Heuser RL. *Prenatal Care in the United States, 1980-94*. National Center for Health Statistics. Vital Health Stat 21(54). 1996.

² The Alan Guttmacher Institute. *Sex and America's Teenagers*. 1994.

³ The Alan Guttmacher Institute. *Issues in Brief*. February 1995.

⁴ Kreutzer, Tracy A. *Expenditures and Investments: Adolescent Pregnancy in the South. Volume II*. Southern Regional Project on Infant Mortality. Washington, DC. 1997.

TABLE 2.3:
LIVE BIRTHS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO MOTHER'S USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.
STATE	67100 38492 27156 1452	66773 37910 27424 1439	15.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	305 57 247 1	641 172 464 5	1394 449 930 15	2285 862 1953 27	3453 1438 2270 62	4216 1890 7013 56	11989 4811 9774 165	20415 10339 5389 302	16952 11105 5389 458	11307 7794 3189 324	4933 3268 1510 155	839 516 291 32	27 18 8 1	6 2 3 1
ACADIA	476 301 175 -	926 681 244 1	15.9	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	3 - 3 -	8 2 6 -	22 12 10 -	38 21 29 -	59 30 17 -	60 43 79 -	187 108 85 -	302 217 85 -	217 181 36 1	149 119 29 -	61 51 10 -	7 5 2 -	- - - -	
CROWLEY*	475 300 175 -	253 147 106 -	17.4	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	3 - 3 -	6 1 5 -	9 3 4 -	12 6 9 -	21 11 15 -	16 26 5 -	64 26 38 -	92 55 37 -	39 25 14 -	34 25 9 -	20 15 5 -	1 - - -		
ALLEN	2 1 1 -	322 244 69 9	13.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 1 - -	5 4 1 -	2 2 - -	6 4 1 1	22 14 7 1	22 18 4 -	57 42 13 2	103 81 20 2	84 63 18 3	53 39 13 1	19 14 4 1	4 3 1 -	- - - -	
ASCENSION	2 1 1 -	1218 900 307 11	17.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	2 - 2 -	7 1 6 -	22 10 12 -	32 25 18 -	48 31 23 -	59 31 27 1	168 81 86 1	311 208 100 3	391 323 67 1	258 222 31 5	77 58 18 1	11 8 3 -	- - - -	
ASSUMPTION	1 - 1 -	305 175 129 1	13.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	3 - 3 -	5 4 2 -	12 10 8 1	19 9 8 -	23 26 14 1	62 26 35 1	88 49 39 -	74 52 22 -	52 33 19 -	25 13 12 -	3 2 1 -	- - - -	
AVOYELLES	4 1 3 -	573 354 216 3	13.7	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	4 2 2 -	7 3 4 -	8 12 5 1	28 15 9 1	25 22 9 1	36 55 47 2	104 106 73 -	179 118 53 1	172 47 25 -	72 47 14 -	33 19 14 -	9 7 2 -	- - - -	
BEAUREGARD	607 481 116 10	475 408 59 8	15.2	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	2 1 1 -	4 3 1 -	7 6 1 -	13 12 1 -	26 22 4 -	39 32 7 -	89 75 143 4	170 109 23 -	120 109 11 1	58 50 7 3	32 26 3 -	4 4 - -	- - - -	
DE RIDDER*	605 479 116 10	146 97 44 5	13.8	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	3 2 1 -	2 1 1 -	3 9 2 -	11 5 3 -	8 19 8 -	27 36 15 2	53 36 11 -	33 22 6 1	19 12 3 2	12 7 1 -	- - - -	- - - -	
BIENVILLE	1 - 1 -	197 100 97 -	12.6	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	7 2 5 -	7 2 5 -	9 3 6 -	11 3 8 -	12 3 9 -	46 13 33 -	66 42 24 -	49 28 21 -	24 11 13 -	11 6 5 -	1 - - -	- - - -	
BOSSIER	615 519 79 17	1376 987 359 30	14.6	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	7 2 5 -	6 3 3 -	20 13 7 -	42 32 19 1	60 69 26 2	104 139 33 5	232 261 88 7	392 289 124 11	375 201 75 7	255 177 47 -	93 77 16 -	22 18 4 -	- - - -	
BOSSIER CITY*	613 517 79 17	830 569 237 24	14.4	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	6 1 5 -	4 2 2 -	12 7 14 1	29 14 21 2	37 21 42 2	65 147 86 5	147 157 162 7	241 157 121 7	221 162 33 5	159 121 33 5	46 121 12 -	10 8 2 -	- - - -	- - - -
CADDY	5917 3035 2805 77	3614 1601 1969 44	15.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	18 1 17 -	29 4 25 -	71 14 57 -	132 31 99 2	214 59 155 -	263 87 174 2	709 195 510 4	1151 430 709 12	910 494 402 14	536 307 220 9	251 151 96 4	35 22 12 1	1 - - -	3 - - -

TABLE 2.3:
LIVE BIRTHS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO MOTHER'S USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.
SHREVEPORT*	5910 3032 2801 77	3083 1205 1840 38	15.4	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	17 - 17 -	25 3 22 -	68 13 55 -	110 18 90 2	179 40 139 -	227 64 161 2	609 138 467 4	1001 323 669 9	766 375 379 12	448 236 204 8	210 116 90 4	29 17 11 1	- - - 3	
CALCASIEU	3298 2388 885 25	2797 1943 833 21	15.4	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	9 1 8 -	25 13 12 -	63 23 40 -	79 43 36 1	150 84 65 2	181 117 62 3	498 280 215 3	925 618 304 10	736 569 157 10	427 335 90 2	169 121 45 3	32 18 14 -		
LAKE CHARLES*	2940 2050 867 23	1125 464 651 10	14.9	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	7 - 7 -	13 4 9 -	38 6 32 -	32 5 27 -	63 14 49 1	76 27 48 1	222 56 165 1	383 134 248 1	272 144 124 4	153 86 65 2	69 34 33 2	18 9 9 -		
SULPHUR*	346 329 15 2	322 297 21 4	15.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 1 - -	4 4 - -	6 6 - -	13 11 2 1	22 18 3 -	24 20 4 -	69 59 9 1	111 105 5 1	88 83 3 2	37 34 3 -	15 14 1 -	1 1 - -		
CALDWELL	- - - -	132 102 30 -	12.4	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	1 1 2 -	6 4 3 -	7 4 3 -	5 2 4 -	14 10 12 -	33 21 11 -	42 31 5 -	41 36 1 -	12 12 1 -	3 2 1 -			
CAMERON	- - - -	110 103 7 -	12.2	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	1 1 1 -	3 2 1 -	8 7 1 -	5 5 1 -	12 11 4 -	29 25 1 -	31 30 1 -	21 20 1 -	17 17 1 -	10 9 1 -	2 2 - -		
CATAHOULA	- - - -	169 112 57 -	15.8	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	2 - 2 -	3 4 3 -	6 3 2 -	6 10 9 -	19 7 5 -	12 7 5 -	46 24 22 -	69 46 23 -	33 27 6 -	9 8 1 -	8 6 2 -	1 1 - -		
CLAIBORNE	116 33 82 1	199 78 120 1	11.6	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	3 - 3 -	5 - 9 -	12 3 3 -	6 8 5 -	13 8 5 -	39 14 25 -	76 27 49 -	43 21 21 1	29 16 16 1	9 7 7 -	2 1 1 -		
CONCORDIA	257 91 165 1	298 124 173 1	14.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	5 - 5 -	7 2 7 -	13 4 11 -	22 4 18 -	13 4 9 -	22 8 14 -	77 18 59 -	112 39 72 1	64 43 21 -	30 18 12 -	8 6 2 -	2 - - -		
DESOTO	3 - 3 -	385 187 197 1	15.6	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	7 1 6 -	6 3 3 -	13 5 8 -	21 6 15 -	24 13 11 -	71 28 43 -	133 59 74 -	92 55 36 1	53 23 30 -	27 17 10 -	8 5 3 -		
E BATON ROUGE	9899 5757 3960 182	6058 2829 3067 162	15.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	25 1 24 -	68 9 59 1	104 20 83 2	163 40 121 3	277 72 202 3	322 82 237 9	934 223 702 26	1578 498 1054 59	1627 901 667 59	1220 786 393 41	569 363 185 21	102 55 42 5	2 1 - 1	
BATON ROUGE*	9461 5543 3739 179	4977 2052 2777 148	21.4	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	23 - 23 -	58 5 53 1	89 15 73 2	137 26 109 2	245 57 186 2	284 60 221 3	813 163 642 8	1322 333 965 24	1309 657 597 55	966 580 350 36	461 277 165 19	81 41 35 5	2 1 - -	
BAKER*	1 1 - -	237 123 113 1	17.5	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	6 2 4 -	2 - 5 -	10 4 6 -	10 4 3 -	7 4 20 -	35 15 8 -	80 42 38 -	68 36 32 1	35 21 13 -	14 9 5 -	4 - 4 -	- - - -	

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PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.
WESTWEGO*	1	199	17.6	ALL	-	-	4	12	8	19	43	76	43	30	7	-	-	-
	-	112		WHITE	-	-	1	5	5	5	16	44	25	21	6	-	-	-
	1	74		BLACK	-	-	3	7	3	11	24	27	14	8	1	-	-	-
	-	13		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	5	4	1	-	-	-	-
JEFF DAVIS	362	492	15.6	ALL	8	6	14	13	28	35	96	163	129	64	25	7	-	-
	294	372		WHITE	6	1	7	8	20	23	59	118	108	58	18	5	-	-
	63	112		BLACK	2	4	7	5	8	11	35	44	17	5	7	2	-	-
	5	8		OTHER	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	4	1	-	-	-	-
JENNINGS*	362	205	17.0	ALL	4	2	8	7	17	15	49	74	41	24	12	1	-	-
	294	136		WHITE	3	1	4	4	9	9	27	45	31	21	8	1	-	-
	63	66		BLACK	1	1	4	3	8	5	21	29	8	3	4	-	-	-
	5	3		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
LAFAYETTE	5277	2964	16.1	ALL	6	24	43	72	107	160	406	760	818	626	299	48	1	-
	3617	1990		WHITE	3	10	12	30	53	81	186	434	621	491	220	34	1	-
	1573	917		BLACK	3	14	31	42	52	79	218	313	182	121	68	12	-	-
	87	57		OTHER	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	13	15	14	11	2	-	-
LAFAYETTE*	5273	1781	15.7	ALL	5	12	29	50	69	98	258	474	456	352	197	38	1	-
	3613	1053		WHITE	2	3	6	12	29	38	88	224	313	261	135	29	1	-
	1573	693		BLACK	3	9	23	38	40	60	170	243	133	83	53	8	-	-
	87	35		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	8	9	1	-	-
LAFOURCHE	1057	1305	14.8	ALL	7	13	24	45	61	95	238	384	352	223	90	11	-	-
	954	1005		WHITE	5	5	14	24	37	61	141	286	301	192	69	11	-	-
	82	260		BLACK	2	8	8	20	21	30	87	90	39	23	19	-	-	-
	21	40		OTHER	-	-	2	1	3	4	10	8	12	8	2	-	-	-
THIBODAUX*	737	297	18.8	ALL	-	4	10	12	20	26	72	91	72	41	19	2	-	-
	649	160		WHITE	-	1	3	4	6	10	24	45	50	29	10	2	-	-
	74	136		BLACK	-	3	7	8	14	16	48	46	21	12	9	-	-	-
	14	1		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
LASALLE	45	199	14.1	ALL	-	3	5	8	10	13	39	73	49	31	7	-	-	-
	28	176		WHITE	-	3	4	6	9	12	34	59	46	31	6	-	-	-
	17	23		BLACK	-	-	1	2	1	1	5	14	3	-	1	-	-	-
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LINCOLN	580	549	13.2	ALL	-	6	17	19	21	34	97	184	146	80	34	8	-	-
	274	252		WHITE	-	1	6	5	8	7	27	66	91	43	20	5	-	-
	301	287		BLACK	-	5	11	14	13	27	70	117	54	34	9	3	-	-
	5	10		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	5	-	-	-
RUSTON*	578	288	13.7	ALL	-	3	10	12	12	18	55	103	66	43	17	4	-	-
	273	97		WHITE	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	36	29	20	8	2	-	-
	300	182		BLACK	-	3	9	12	11	18	53	67	36	20	4	2	-	-
	5	9		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	5	-	-	-
LIVINGSTON	2	1386	15.9	ALL	3	8	33	39	62	66	208	448	429	208	78	12	-	-
	1	1280		WHITE	2	6	27	35	54	55	177	405	412	201	72	11	-	-
	1	100		BLACK	1	2	6	4	8	11	31	40	15	6	6	1	-	-
	-	6		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-
MADISON	8	216	16.5	ALL	3	5	12	12	14	15	58	73	49	25	7	1	-	-
	2	53		WHITE	1	2	1	-	2	3	8	16	19	9	-	-	-	-
	6	163		BLACK	2	3	11	12	12	12	50	57	30	16	7	1	-	-
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE 2.3:
LIVE BIRTHS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO MOTHER'S USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.
TALLULAH*	8	178	20.9	ALL	3	4	10	9	11	12	46	66	38	17	7	1	-	-
	2	33		WHITE	1	1	-	-	1	2	4	14	11	3	-	-	-	-
	6	145		BLACK	2	3	10	9	10	10	42	52	27	14	7	1	-	-
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MOREHOUSE	471	510	16.2	ALL	5	7	15	28	42	41	133	187	114	49	19	3	-	-
	275	209		WHITE	-	2	6	5	16	16	45	76	53	27	7	1	-	-
	195	301		BLACK	5	5	9	23	26	25	88	111	61	22	12	2	-	-
	1	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BASTROP*	469	311	22.2	ALL	4	5	11	17	28	24	85	124	61	23	11	3	-	-
	275	84		WHITE	-	1	4	1	6	5	17	40	16	8	2	1	-	-
	193	227		BLACK	4	4	7	16	22	19	68	84	45	15	9	2	-	-
	1	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NATCHITOCHES	612	604	16.0	ALL	5	4	7	24	35	45	115	214	155	71	39	5	-	-
	329	312		WHITE	3	-	4	7	13	18	42	99	102	40	25	1	-	-
	280	288		BLACK	2	4	3	17	22	27	73	113	53	31	13	3	-	-
	3	4		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
NATCHITOCHES*	609	314	17.8	ALL	1	3	2	10	19	20	54	128	73	37	18	3	-	-
	327	104		WHITE	-	-	1	-	5	4	10	33	37	13	10	1	-	-
	279	208		BLACK	1	3	1	10	14	16	44	94	36	24	7	2	-	-
	3	2		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
ORLEANS	9056	7573	16.2	ALL	42	104	206	315	426	507	1558	2415	1635	1182	602	133	6	-
	2434	1302		WHITE	-	1	2	9	18	38	68	195	345	401	233	56	4	-
	6362	6062		BLACK	42	103	204	304	405	464	1480	2177	1210	729	355	67	2	-
	260	209		OTHER	-	-	-	2	3	5	10	43	80	52	14	10	-	-
OUACHITA	3830	2319	15.7	ALL	13	19	51	69	127	155	421	759	617	353	138	15	2	1
	2148	1265		WHITE	1	3	13	20	53	69	158	367	404	239	85	10	1	-
	1653	1035		BLACK	12	16	38	49	74	85	262	389	206	112	48	5	1	-
	29	19		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	7	2	5	-	-	1
MONROE*	3408	1161	20.9	ALL	12	14	39	46	74	86	259	418	247	146	68	9	1	1
	1781	281		WHITE	1	-	4	2	12	6	24	85	74	60	33	4	-	-
	1601	869		BLACK	11	14	35	44	62	80	235	331	167	85	34	5	1	-
	26	11		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	1	1	-	-	-	1
WEST MONROE*	416	408	28.1	ALL	1	1	8	7	29	28	73	142	117	44	29	2	-	-
	363	315		WHITE	-	-	5	5	23	24	57	108	98	33	17	2	-	-
	50	88		BLACK	1	1	3	2	6	3	15	33	18	11	10	-	-	-
	3	5		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	-
PLAQUEMINES	6	366	13.9	ALL	1	2	7	9	18	21	57	128	91	63	24	2	-	-
	1	244		WHITE	-	1	2	4	9	15	31	88	59	46	19	1	-	-
	4	103		BLACK	1	1	5	5	8	5	24	36	25	12	4	1	-	-
	1	19		OTHER	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4	7	5	1	-	-	-
POINTE COUPEE	4	331	14.2	ALL	3	5	5	17	21	21	69	105	76	50	24	3	1	-
	-	176		WHITE	2	2	3	6	3	12	26	49	51	34	12	1	1	-
	4	155		BLACK	1	3	2	11	18	9	43	56	25	16	12	2	-	-
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RAPIDES	3176	1928	15.2	ALL	10	21	54	88	123	139	425	606	456	285	124	21	1	-
	2055	1111		WHITE	1	4	15	40	47	61	167	351	293	203	81	14	1	-
	1091	795		BLACK	9	17	39	47	75	78	256	252	154	78	39	7	-	-
	30	22		OTHER	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	3	9	4	4	-	-	-

TABLE 2.3:
LIVE BIRTHS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO MOTHER'S USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	LT	15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.
					15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.	
ST MARTIN	3	752	15.9	ALL	1	9	17	31	41	55	153	230	183	122	51	12	-	-	
	2	425		WHITE	-	1	7	14	19	22	63	133	119	77	28	5	-	-	
	1	317		BLACK	1	8	10	17	22	33	90	96	58	44	22	6	-	-	
	-	10		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	1	1	1	-	-	
ST MARY	643	929	16.2	ALL	8	7	15	42	56	64	184	325	234	118	47	12	1	-	
	373	558		WHITE	1	3	3	21	23	32	82	193	162	81	32	6	1	-	
	241	332		BLACK	6	4	10	20	29	31	94	120	58	34	15	5	-	-	
	29	39		OTHER	1	-	2	1	4	1	8	12	14	3	-	1	-	-	
MORGAN CITY*	504	302	19.9	ALL	-	4	6	11	18	22	61	111	83	31	14	2	-	-	
	332	206		WHITE	-	1	2	8	8	16	35	71	67	23	10	-	-	-	
	146	87		BLACK	-	3	4	2	10	5	24	36	14	8	4	1	-	-	
	26	9		OTHER	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	
ST TAMMANY	3429	2606	14.2	ALL	8	10	25	46	95	109	285	576	717	654	314	50	2	-	
	2732	2201		WHITE	2	5	15	30	60	72	182	450	629	608	282	46	2	-	
	661	370		BLACK	6	5	9	16	35	36	101	124	78	32	26	3	-	-	
	36	35		OTHER	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	2	10	14	6	1	-	-	
SLIDELL*	1242	525	18.1	ALL	5	2	7	12	17	23	61	140	134	119	60	6	-	-	
	1071	426		WHITE	2	1	4	4	8	14	31	114	114	109	51	5	-	-	
	156	92		BLACK	3	1	3	8	9	9	30	26	18	9	5	1	-	-	
	15	7		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	-	-	-	
TANGIPAHOA	1548	1616	16.9	ALL	12	14	45	62	87	124	332	593	344	234	92	9	-	-	
	897	947		WHITE	3	3	14	21	42	54	134	320	245	176	62	7	-	-	
	641	654		BLACK	9	11	31	40	45	70	197	272	94	52	28	2	-	-	
	10	15		OTHER	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	5	6	2	-	-	-	
HAMMOND*	1537	333	18.5	ALL	4	2	9	18	15	24	68	138	61	43	18	1	-	-	
	889	131		WHITE	-	-	-	4	1	3	8	51	33	25	13	1	-	-	
	638	196		BLACK	4	2	9	14	14	21	60	87	25	15	5	-	-	-	
	10	6		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	
TENSAS	-	94	15.1	ALL	-	-	2	3	12	10	27	36	18	10	3	-	-	-	
	-	26		WHITE	-	-	-	2	2	1	5	6	9	5	1	-	-	-	
	-	68		BLACK	-	-	2	1	10	9	22	30	9	5	2	-	-	-	
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TERREBONNE	2327	1693	16.3	ALL	1	18	52	65	91	124	350	532	398	279	117	16	-	-	
	1433	1179		WHITE	1	10	32	45	55	78	220	349	302	209	87	11	-	-	
	718	367		BLACK	-	5	13	15	18	29	80	146	68	49	20	4	-	-	
	176	147		OTHER	-	3	7	5	18	17	50	37	28	21	10	1	-	-	
HOUma*	1175	896	26.3	ALL	-	6	28	37	50	66	187	284	211	139	64	11	-	-	
	894	570		WHITE	-	4	17	22	30	37	110	159	156	94	43	8	-	-	
	178	261		BLACK	-	2	10	13	13	21	59	109	42	33	15	3	-	-	
	103	65		OTHER	-	-	1	2	7	8	18	16	13	12	6	-	-	-	
UNION	1	320	14.5	ALL	-	2	7	10	12	21	52	122	86	39	14	7	-	-	
	-	209		WHITE	-	1	2	7	8	13	31	76	58	26	12	6	-	-	
	1	111		BLACK	-	1	5	3	4	8	21	46	28	13	2	1	-	-	
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
VERMILION	196	824	16.1	ALL	2	5	22	35	52	51	165	264	201	131	50	10	1	-	
	101	631		WHITE	1	3	14	23	41	31	112	196	174	102	39	7	-	-	
	87	173		BLACK	1	2	8	12	11	20	53	66	20	22	8	2	1	-	
	8	20		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	7	3	1	-	-	

TABLE 2.3:
LIVE BIRTHS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO MOTHER'S USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	LT	15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.
					15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.	
ABBEVILLE*	196	272	20.8	ALL	1	3	9	14	18	32	76	97	52	30	14	1	1	-	
	101	124		WHITE	-	1	3	4	8	15	31	43	30	13	7	-	-	-	
	87	135		BLACK	1	2	6	10	10	17	45	53	16	11	7	1	1	-	
	8	13		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	
VERNON	516	945	18.2	ALL	1	3	8	28	40	57	136	376	256	130	41	5	-	-	
	354	715		WHITE	-	2	6	18	27	41	94	287	197	103	32	2	-	-	
	123	186		BLACK	1	1	2	8	11	15	37	74	45	20	6	3	-	-	
	39	44		OTHER	-	-	-	2	2	1	5	15	14	7	3	-	-	-	
WASHINGTON	52	681	15.4	ALL	5	8	15	37	40	47	147	264	162	73	27	3	-	-	
	23	414		WHITE	3	2	8	14	17	29	70	158	120	49	14	-	-	-	
	29	266		BLACK	2	6	7	23	23	18	77	106	42	23	13	3	-	-	
	-	1		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
BOGALUSA*	52	229	15.7	ALL	2	4	3	11	11	19	48	105	44	22	7	1	-	-	
	23	120		WHITE	1	-	3	4	4	14	25	49	28	14	3	-	-	-	
	29	109		BLACK	1	4	-	7	7	5	23	56	16	8	4	1	-	-	
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WEBSTER	721	591	13.9	ALL	7	6	18	13	36	44	117	200	138	80	44	5	-	-	
	393	349		WHITE	2	2	8	4	19	20	53	126	86	50	30	2	-	-	
	327	241		BLACK	5	4	10	9	17	24	64	74	51	30	14	3	-	-	
	1	1		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
MINDEN*	651	222	15.5	ALL	3	5	8	3	16	21	53	73	47	28	16	2	-	-	
	354	93		WHITE	1	2	2	-	6	9	19	32	21	11	9	-	-	-	
	296	129		BLACK	2	3	6	3	10	12	34	41	26	17	7	2	-	-	
	1	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
W BATON ROUGE	-	337	16.3	ALL	1	2	5	7	22	16	52	93	101	67	21	1	1	-	
	-	198		WHITE	-	1	2	3	12	8	26	47	62	49	13	-	1	-	
	-	138		BLACK	1	1	3	4	10	8	26	46	39	17	8	1	-	-	
	-	1		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
WEST CARROLL	2	159	13.0	ALL	2	4	5	9	9	9	36	48	48	19	5	1	-	-	
	2	118		WHITE	-	4	5	6	7	6	28	33	42	13	2	-	-	-	
	-	40		BLACK	2	-	-	3	2	3	8	14	6	6	3	1	-	-	
	-	1		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
W FELICIANA	-	114	8.5	ALL	-	2	1	4	6	7	20	29	31	23	8	3	-	-	
	-	69		WHITE	-	-	1	1	2	4	8	16	23	15	5	2	-	-	
	-	45		BLACK	-	2	-	3	4	3	12	13	8	8	3	1	-	-	
	-	-		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WINN	2	210	11.7	ALL	1	2	4	12	8	19	45	81	47	24	11	1	-	-	
	1	134		WHITE	-	1	2	2	6	8	19	50	35	20	9	1	-	-	
	1	73		BLACK	1	1	2	10	2	10	25	29	12	4	2	-	-	-	
	-	3		OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
OUT OF STATE**	810	1137		ALL	2	8	7	13	39	46	113	300	358	231	102	24	4	3	
	379	961		WHITE	-	6	4	12	29	35	86	261	297	198	91	21	4	3	
	425	157		BLACK	2	2	2	1	10	11	26	38	52	26	10	3	-	-	
	6	19		OTHER	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	9	7	1	-	-	-	

+RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

*CITIES INCLUDED IN PARISH TOTALS

**NOT INCLUDED IN STATE TOTALS

Births to unmarried women are tabulated based on the woman's marital status as reported on the birth certificate. The percent of unmarried women among all women giving birth is influenced by economic, peer, and self-perception issues that affect both the rate at which women marry and the number of married and unmarried women giving birth. Marital status can be used as an indicator for important health and social outcomes. As the U.S. Census Bureau reports, marital status "does represent a significant distinction in the resources available to the children, in terms of social, human, and financial capital, as well as the occurrence of marital instability."⁵

The annual proportion of live births that occur to unmarried women in Louisiana has doubled in the last two decades. This increase has occurred in every age group, but can be seen most clearly in mothers in their twenties, where the percentage of unmarried women among all women giving birth has almost tripled in the past 20 years. In 1998, there were 29,940 live births to unmarried women. This represents 44.8% of all 1998 live births in the state, versus 22.9% in 1978.

Very young women were the most likely to be unmarried, with 85% of all mothers under the age of 20 being unmarried in 1998. Black mothers were three times (24.2% vs. 7.4.2%) as likely to be unmarried as white mothers were. The greatest racial disparity in marital status was seen in mothers aged 30-34, where blacks were more than five times more likely than whites to be unmarried (46.3% vs. 8.4%).

**Table 2.4: Percents of Live Births to Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Age
Louisiana and United States, 1989-1998**

Year	Louisiana							United States*						
	<20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40+	All Ages	<20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40+	All Ages
1989	72.3	41.4	21.9	16.4	16.7	18.8	35.2	67.2	35.1	17.1	12.6	13.3	15.9	27.1
1990	73.2	43.0	22.8	18.1	19.3	20.7	36.8	67.6	36.9	18.0	13.3	13.9	17.0	28.0
1991	75.1	45.1	23.7	18.9	20.3	20.5	38.3	69.3	39.4	19.2	14.0	14.6	17.4	29.5
1992	78.8	47.0	25.2	19.0	21.4	21.6	40.3	70.5	40.7	19.8	14.3	15.2	17.7	30.1
1993	80.6	49.3	26.5	20.2	21.0	22.5	42.1	71.8	42.2	20.7	14.7	15.6	18.1	31.0
1994	81.7	50.2	26.6	20.1	21.2	25.7	42.6	75.9	44.9	21.8	15.1	16.1	18.7	32.6
1995	81.9	50.9	26.6	18.8	20.8	25.2	42.4	75.6	44.7	21.5	14.7	15.7	18.1	32.2
1996	83.0	53.7	26.4	19.7	20.7	25.3	43.4	76.3	45.6	22.0	14.8	15.7	18.4	32.4
1997	83.6	55.4	26.4	18.9	20.4	24.8	43.8	78.2	46.6	22.0	14.1	14.6	17.1	32.4
1998	84.9	43.4	18.6	11.4	9.0	22.9	44.8	78.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	32.8

*United States data for 1998 are preliminary

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

**Table 2.5: Percents of Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Race and Age
Louisiana, 1998**

Race	Maternal Age								
	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	All Ages
All	99.02	84.51	56.79	26.99	19.15	19.70	22.88	22.22	44.84
White	94.74	67.53	33.48	12.49	8.35	9.55	12.40	11.11	24.22
Black	100.00	96.25	81.85	57.60	46.32	42.78	42.27	50.00	74.22
Other	100.00	80.61	43.38	18.56	11.42	9.03	15.63	-	28.21

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

Unmarried Mothers

⁵ Fields, Jason M. and Kristen E. Smith. "Poverty, Family Structure, and Child Well-Being: Indicators From the SIPP." Population Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census. Washington, DC, April 1998.

TABLE 2.6:
BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED MOTHERS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	AGE IN YEARS													
					LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.
STATE	29700 9202 20091 407	29940 9181 20353 406	448.4 242.2 742.2 282.1	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	302 54 247 1	627 158 464 5	1310 378 917 15	2035 640 1370 25	2904 974 1880 50	3256 1099 2119 38	10132 3249 6750 133	11593 3462 8000 131	4576 1387 3104 85	2165 651 1477 37	972 312 646 14	192 123 46 5	6 2 4 -	
ACADIA	293 142 151 -	412 210 202 -	444.9 308.4 827.9 -	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	3 - 3 -	8 2 6 -	21 11 10 -	34 17 17 -	50 22 28 -	47 9 16 -	160 83 77 -	159 82 77 -	48 25 23 -	29 12 17 -	11 8 3 -	2 -	-	
CROWLEY*	293 142 151 -	151 60 91 -	596.8 408.2 858.5 -	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	3 - 3 -	6 1 5 -	9 3 4 -	12 4 9 -	19 9 15 -	13 9 4 -	59 22 37 -	58 23 35 -	14 5 9 -	12 6 6 -	5 4 1 -	-	-	
ALLEN	1 1 - -	130 87 41 2	403.7 356.6 594.2 222.2	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	4 3 1 -	2 2 1 1	2 - 1 1	15 7 7 1	18 14 4 -	41 26 13 2	50 37 13 -	20 12 8 -	15 10 5 -	4 2 2 -	-	-	
ASCENSION	2 1 1 -	402 180 217 5	330.0 200.0 706.8 454.5	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	2 - 2 -	7 1 6 -	20 8 12 -	27 10 17 -	43 21 22 1	52 24 27 1	149 64 84 1	143 61 80 2	64 61 80 1	30 30 33 1	14 21 9 -	-	-	
ASSUMPTION	1 - 1 -	147 44 102 1	482.0 251.4 790.7 1000.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	3 2 3 -	4 2 2 -	12 4 8 1	18 9 8 -	18 5 13 1	55 5 34 -	44 20 35 -	25 9 17 -	13 8 10 -	8 3 5 -	1 1 -	-	
AVOYELLES	3 - 3 -	247 93 152 2	431.1 262.7 703.7 666.7	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	4 2 2 -	6 2 5 -	8 3 14 1	24 9 9 1	19 9 9 1	22 9 13 1	79 32 45 2	97 36 61 -	39 11 28 -	18 8 10 -	9 4 5 -	1 1 1 -	-	
BEAUREGARD	245 150 92 3	140 96 42 2	294.7 235.3 711.9 250.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	4 3 1 -	4 3 1 -	11 10 1 -	18 14 4 -	23 17 6 -	60 47 13 -	58 35 21 2	14 9 5 -	5 4 1 -	2 1 1 -	-	-	
DE RIDDER*	245 150 92 3	63 31 31 1	431.5 319.6 704.5 200.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	1 - 1 -	3 2 1 -	2 1 1 -	3 2 2 -	7 5 2 -	7 4 3 -	22 14 8 -	28 12 15 1	7 2 5 1	4 3 1 -	1 1 1 -	-	-	
BIENVILLE	1 - 1 -	101 26 75 -	512.7 260.0 773.2 -	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	6 1 5 -	7 2 5 -	7 1 6 -	10 2 8 -	10 1 9 -	40 7 33 -	31 12 19 -	20 6 14 -	6 4 6 -	4 1 3 -	-	-	
BOSSIER	158 103 46 9	487 232 245 10	353.9 235.1 682.5 333.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	7 2 5 -	6 3 3 -	18 11 7 1	40 20 19 1	40 16 23 2	69 38 29 2	173 88 81 4	164 79 84 1	78 32 42 4	42 20 21 1	18 8 10 -	5 3 2 -	-	-
BOSSIER CITY*	157 102 46 9	312 147 157 8	375.9 258.3 662.4 333.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	6 1 5 -	4 2 2 -	10 5 14 1	28 13 12 1	24 11 18 1	43 23 51 2	109 54 51 4	100 54 45 1	49 16 31 2	32 15 16 2	13 5 8 1	3 2 1 -	-	-
CADDY	2805 678 2101 26	1905 372 1515 18	527.1 232.4 769.4 409.1	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	18 1 17 -	28 3 25 -	70 13 57 -	124 24 98 2	192 39 153 -	219 54 165 -	633 133 498 2	717 128 580 9	314 60 249 5	148 26 121 1	65 19 45 1	8 5 3 -	2 -	-

TABLE 2.6:
BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED MOTHERS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+	RACE	AGE IN YEARS														
					LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.	
WESTWEGO*	1 - 1 -	118 52 61 5	593.0 464.3 824.3 384.6	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	- 1 3 -	4 4 7 -	11 3 3 -	6 4 10 2	16 12 23 2	37 12 24 2	52 26 24 2	18 7 10 1	7 4 3 -	4 3 1 -	- - - -			
JEFF DAVIS	141 89 51 1	201 110 87 4	408.5 295.7 776.8 500.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	8 6 2 -	6 1 4 1	12 5 7 -	11 6 5 -	20 12 8 -	25 13 11 1	74 37 35 2	80 47 32 1	25 15 9 1	6 4 2 -	6 1 5 -	2 - - -			
JENNINGS*	141 89 51 1	95 40 54 1	463.4 294.1 818.2 333.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	4 3 1 -	2 1 4 -	7 3 3 -	7 4 3 -	11 3 8 5	8 2 5 1	35 13 21 1	38 17 21 -	9 4 5 -	5 3 2 -	4 - - -	- - - -			
LAFAYETTE	1970 831 1117 22	1084 427 647 10	365.7 214.6 705.6 175.4	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	6 3 3 -	24 10 14 -	43 12 31 -	67 26 41 -	88 39 47 2	117 49 68 -	339 136 201 2	424 166 252 6	167 68 98 1	100 38 61 1	40 15 25 -	8 1 7 -			
LAFAYETTE*	1970 831 1117 22	727 221 502 4	408.2 209.9 724.4 114.3	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	5 2 3 -	12 3 9 -	29 6 23 -	47 10 37 -	58 21 37 -	78 28 50 -	224 68 156 -	291 93 195 3	105 29 195 1	65 9 45 -	31 9 22 -	6 1 5 -	- - - -		
LAFOURCHE	158 109 46 3	510 273 217 20	390.8 271.6 834.6 500.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	6 4 2 -	12 4 8 2	21 16 7 1	37 31 20 3	54 31 20 2	70 38 30 2	194 101 85 8	182 99 78 5	71 42 26 3	39 19 17 3	17 7 9 1	1 - - -	- - - -		
THIBODAUX*	103 61 42 -	166 52 114 -	558.9 325.0 838.2 -	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	4 1 3 -	8 2 6 -	11 3 8 -	19 5 14 -	23 7 16 -	65 18 47 -	59 20 39 -	22 8 14 -	14 4 10 -	6 2 4 -	- - - -			
LASALLE	25 8 17 -	46 27 19 -	231.2 153.4 826.1 -	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - - -	2 2 1 -	4 3 2 -	3 2 1 -	3 2 1 -	3 2 1 -	15 10 13 -	25 12 13 -	3 2 1 -	2 1 1 -	- - - -	- - - -			
LINCOLN	272 50 222 -	251 34 215 2	457.2 134.9 749.1 200.0	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - 5 -	6 1 11 -	17 6 14 -	17 3 12 -	15 3 23 -	26 3 65 -	81 16 97 -	110 13 34 -	37 3 15 2	19 2 3 -	3 2 1 -	1 - - -			
RUSTON*	272 50 222 -	155 13 140 2	538.2 134.0 769.2 222.2	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	- - 3 -	3 1 9 -	10 - 12 -	12 - 10 -	10 - 14 -	14 - 14 -	49 1 48 -	70 11 59 -	22 1 22 -	13 1 10 2	1 - 1 -	- - - -	- - - -		
LIVINGSTON	2 1 1 -	398 332 65 1	287.2 259.4 650.0 166.7	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	3 2 1 -	7 5 2 -	30 24 6 -	29 26 3 -	42 36 6 -	41 34 7 -	149 125 24 -	155 128 27 -	52 43 8 1	27 24 3 -	12 10 2 -	- - - -	- - - -		
MADISON	6 1 5 -	151 15 136 -	699.1 283.0 834.4 -	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	3 1 2 -	5 2 3 -	12 1 11 -	12 - 12 -	13 1 12 -	12 1 50 -	54 4 50 -	52 6 46 -	23 2 21 -	15 2 13 -	3 2 3 -	1 - - -	- - - -		
TALLULAH*	6 1 5 -	131 12 119 -	736.0 363.6 820.7 -	ALL WHITE BLACK OTHER	3 1 2 -	4 1 3 -	10 - 10 -	9 - 9 -	11 1 10 -	10 - 10 -	44 2 42 -	47 5 42 -	20 2 18 -	13 2 11 -	3 2 3 -	1 - 1 -	- - - -	- - - -	

TABLE 2.6:
BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED MOTHERS BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE, REALLOCATED TO USUAL RESIDENCE
AND SHOWN BY AGE AND RACE OF MOTHER
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	TOTAL BY OCCURRENCE	TOTAL BY RESIDENCE	RATE+ ALL	RACE	AGE IN YEARS														
					LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK.	
WEBSTER	346	254	429.8	ALL	7	6	17	13	27	26	89	89	30	21	16	2	-	-	
	99	79	226.4	WHITE	2	2	7	4	10	6	29	30	8	5	5	-	-	-	
	247	175	726.1	BLACK	5	4	10	9	17	20	60	59	22	16	11	2	-	-	
	-	-	-	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINDEN*	307	125	563.1	ALL	3	5	8	3	14	13	43	43	14	11	9	2	-	-	
	84	29	311.8	WHITE	1	2	2	-	4	3	11	10	3	1	3	-	-	-	
	223	96	744.2	BLACK	2	3	6	3	10	10	32	33	11	10	6	2	-	-	
	-	-	-	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
W BATON ROUGE	-	135	400.6	ALL	1	2	4	6	15	12	39	50	31	11	3	-	-	-	
	-	41	207.1	WHITE	-	1	1	2	7	4	15	12	8	5	1	-	-	-	
	-	94	681.2	BLACK	1	1	3	4	8	8	24	38	23	6	2	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WEST CARROLL	-	57	358.5	ALL	2	2	4	6	6	7	25	18	8	3	1	-	-	-	
	-	27	228.8	WHITE	-	2	4	3	4	4	17	6	3	1	-	-	-	-	
	-	30	750.0	BLACK	2	-	-	3	2	3	8	12	5	2	1	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
W FELICIANA	-	49	429.8	ALL	-	2	1	4	5	5	17	17	6	8	1	-	-	-	
	-	12	173.9	WHITE	-	-	1	1	1	2	5	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	
	-	37	822.2	BLACK	-	2	-	3	4	3	12	12	5	7	1	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WINN	1	84	400.0	ALL	1	2	3	10	4	13	32	37	7	4	3	-	-	-	
	-	26	194.0	WHITE	-	1	1	1	3	3	9	12	3	1	1	-	-	-	
	1	58	794.5	BLACK	1	1	2	9	1	10	23	25	4	3	2	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
OUT OF STATE**	448	208	-	ALL	2	7	6	8	21	24	66	71	51	12	4	2	-	-	
	95	116	-	WHITE	-	5	3	7	11	16	42	41	24	7	2	-	-	-	
	350	88	2	BLACK	2	2	2	1	10	8	23	30	25	5	1	2	-	-	
	3	4	-	OTHER	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	

+RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS

*CITIES INCLUDED IN PARISH TOTALS

**NOT INCLUDED IN STATE TOTALS

Prenatal care is recognized as an important means of providing medical, nutritional, and educational interventions to reduce the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as infant mortality and low birthweight, and to identify women at high risk for these outcomes. Beyond the positive effect on birth outcomes, prenatal care is a vital part of women's health care, as many women (particularly adolescents, minorities, and women of low socioeconomic status) first enter the health care system during pregnancy.⁶ In Louisiana, adequacy of prenatal care is measured by a **modified Kessner index**. This index defines prenatal care as adequate if the first prenatal visit occurred in the first trimester of pregnancy, and if the total number of visits was appropriate to the gestational age of the baby at birth. However, because these measures assess neither the quality nor the content of prenatal care, they must be recognized only as estimates of the adequacy of the care.

In both Louisiana and the United States, the percentage of live births to mothers entering prenatal care in the first trimester has increased steadily since the early 1990s. In Louisiana 82.3% of the 66,505 live births with known timing of entry into prenatal care in 1998 received prenatal care in the first trimester.

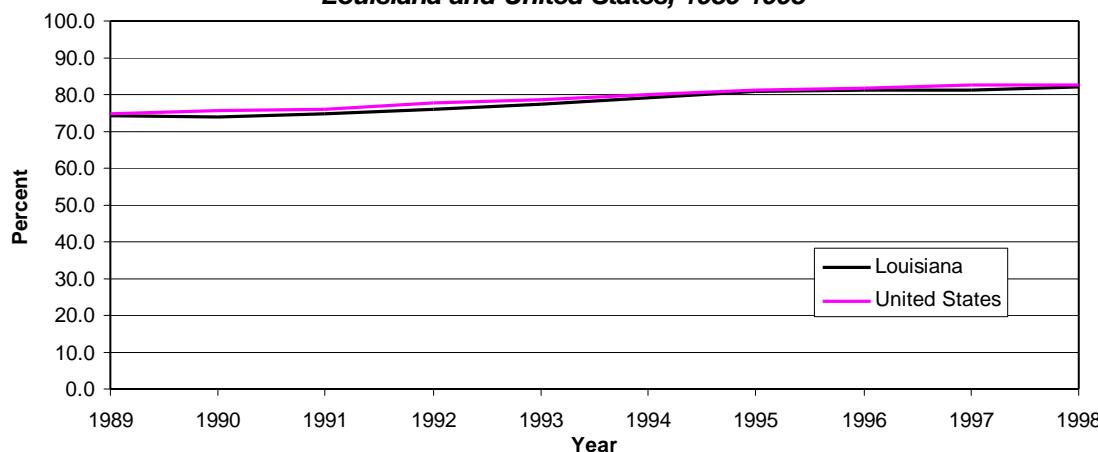
Table 2.7: Percents of Live Births to Mothers Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester of Pregnancy Louisiana and United States, 1989-1998

Year	Louisiana	United States*
1989	74.2	75.0
1990	73.7	75.8
1991	75.0	76.2
1992	76.3	77.7
1993	77.4	78.9
1994	79.2	80.2
1995	80.7	81.3
1996	81.1	81.9
1997	81.3	82.5
1998	82.3	82.8

*United States data for 1998 are preliminary

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

Figure 2.3: Percents of Live Births to Mothers Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester of Pregnancy Louisiana and United States, 1989-1998



Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

⁶ Fiscella, K. Does prenatal care improve birth outcomes? A critical review. *Obstetrics & Gynecology* 85, 468-79. 1995.

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TABLE 2.8:
PERCENT OF WOMEN DELIVERING LIVE INFANTS AND HAVING ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE
BY WOMAN'S AGE, RACE AND RESIDENCE
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	RACE	ALL WOMEN	AGE IN YEARS														
			LT 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	UNK	
BOGALUSA*	ALL	66.22	0.00	50.00	66.67	81.82	63.64	52.63	62.50	67.65	67.44	77.27	42.86	100.00	-	-	
	WHITE	77.31	0.00	-	66.67	100.00	100.00	64.29	76.00	75.00	82.14	78.57	100.00	-	-	-	
	BLACK	53.77	0.00	50.00	-	71.43	42.86	20.00	47.83	61.11	40.00	75.00	0.00	100.00	-	-	
	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WEBSTER	ALL	69.19	71.43	33.33	27.78	76.92	63.89	51.16	53.45	68.56	82.35	72.15	68.18	60.00	-	-	
	WHITE	81.21	50.00	100.00	37.50	100.00	73.68	55.00	64.15	77.42	93.02	85.71	86.67	100.00	-	-	
	BLACK	51.28	80.00	0.00	20.00	66.67	52.94	47.83	44.44	52.86	63.27	50.00	28.57	33.33	-	-	
	OTHER	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	
MINDEN*	ALL	61.01	33.33	40.00	37.50	66.67	62.50	50.00	51.92	64.79	71.74	67.86	37.50	50.00	-	-	
	WHITE	80.65	0.00	100.00	50.00	-	100.00	55.56	73.68	81.25	90.48	90.91	66.67	-	-	-	
	BLACK	46.40	50.00	0.00	33.33	66.67	40.00	45.45	39.39	51.28	56.00	52.94	0.00	50.00	-	-	
	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
W BATON ROUGE	ALL	82.58	100.00	50.00	40.00	57.14	72.73	75.00	67.31	78.26	91.92	84.85	85.71	100.00	100.00	-	
	WHITE	89.23	-	100.00	50.00	66.67	75.00	100.00	80.77	85.11	96.67	87.50	92.31	-	100.00	-	-
	BLACK	72.99	100.00	0.00	33.33	50.00	70.00	50.00	53.85	71.11	84.62	76.47	75.00	100.00	-	-	
	OTHER	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	
WEST CARROLL	ALL	57.86	0.00	0.00	40.00	44.44	44.44	33.33	36.11	70.83	62.50	63.16	60.00	0.00	-	-	
	WHITE	60.17	-	0.00	40.00	50.00	57.14	16.67	35.71	75.76	64.29	53.85	100.00	-	-	-	
	BLACK	50.00	0.00	-	-	33.33	0.00	66.67	37.50	57.14	50.00	83.33	33.33	0.00	-	-	
	OTHER	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
W FELICIANA	ALL	84.82	-	50.00	0.00	75.00	100.00	71.43	75.00	89.66	90.00	81.82	87.50	66.67	-	-	
	WHITE	94.03	-	-	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	87.50	93.75	100.00	92.86	100.00	50.00	-	-	
	BLACK	71.11	-	50.00	-	66.67	100.00	33.33	66.67	84.62	62.50	62.50	66.67	100.00	-	-	
	OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WINN	ALL	63.59	100.00	0.00	25.00	66.67	25.00	52.63	46.67	67.09	72.34	72.73	45.45	100.00	-	-	
	WHITE	69.17	-	0.00	0.00	100.00	16.67	75.00	47.37	72.00	77.14	73.68	55.56	100.00	-	-	
	BLACK	53.52	100.00	0.00	50.00	60.00	50.00	40.00	48.00	57.14	58.33	66.67	0.00	-	-	-	
	OTHER	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	

*CITIES INCLUDED IN PARISH TOTALS

WOMEN WITH MULTIPLE BIRTHS COUNTED ONCE.

65817 WOMEN HAD 1 OR MORE LIVE BIRTHS IN 1998.

ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE DEFINED (MODIFIED KESSNER INDEX) AS

1. CARE MUST BEGIN IN FIRST TRIMESTER,

2. REQUIRED PRENATAL VISITS VARY WITH GESTATION AGE.

GESTATION AGE: 17 WEEKS MUST HAVE 2 OR MORE PRENATAL VISITS,

18-21 WEEKS - 3 OR MORE VISITS, 22-25 WEEKS - 4 OR MORE VISITS,

26-29 WEEKS - 5 OR MORE VISITS, 30-31 WEEKS - 6 OR MORE VISITS,

32-33 WEEKS - 7 OR MORE VISITS, 34-35 WEEKS - 8 OR MORE VISITS,

36 WEEKS OR OVER - 9 OR MORE VISITS.

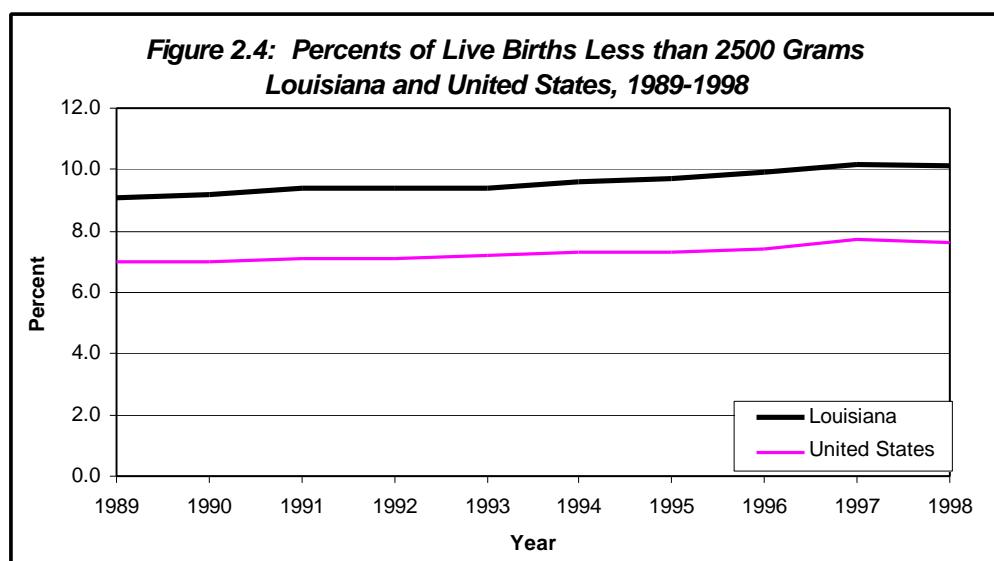
A **low birthweight** infant is defined as an infant weighing less than 2500 grams (5 pounds, 8 ounces) at birth. Low birthweight is a major factor in infant mortality, with more than three-quarters of infant deaths caused by babies being born too small or too early.⁷ Low birthweight has been linked to several preventable factors, including lack of prenatal care, maternal smoking, use of alcohol and other drugs, and pregnancy before the age of 18 years. Other risk factors for low birthweight include low socioeconomic level, low maternal weight gain, low pregnancy weight, first births, female sex, short maternal stature, prior low birthweight births, maternal illnesses, fetal infections, and a variety of metabolic and genetic disorders.

During the past ten years, the percent of total births that are low birthweight has steadily increased in both Louisiana and the United States. In 1998, 6,768 (10.1% of total live births with known birthweight) of the infants born to Louisiana residents weighed less than 2500 grams. In the United States, 7.6% of infants born in 1998 were low birthweight.

Table 2.9: Percents of Live Births Less Than 2500 Grams Louisiana and United States, 1989-1998		
Year	Louisiana	United States*
1989	9.1	7.0
1990	9.2	7.0
1991	9.4	7.1
1992	9.4	7.1
1993	9.4	7.2
1994	9.6	7.3
1995	9.7	7.3
1996	9.9	7.4
1997	10.2	7.7
1998	10.1	7.6

*United States data for 1998 are preliminary

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics,
National Center for Health Statistics



Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics

⁷ Paneth NS. *The problem of low weight*. The Future of Children, Low Birth Weight, 19-34. 1995.

LOW BIRTHWEIGHT

TABLE 2.10:
BIRTH WEIGHTS UNDER 1500 AND UNDER 2500 GRAMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS
BY PARISH AND CITY OF RESIDENCE, RACE OF MOTHER, AND SEX OF CHILD
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	SEX	ALL BIRTHS			WHITE			BLACK			OTHER		
		TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS
STATE	M	66773	2.1	10.1	37910	1.2	7.0	27424	3.5	14.6	1439	1.5	8.1
	F	34064	2.1	9.2	19357	1.2	6.4	13936	3.3	13.2	771	1.7	7.1
		32709	2.2	11.1	18553	1.2	7.5	13488	3.7	16.1	668	1.2	9.1
ACADIA	M	926	1.5	10.7	681	0.9	8.4	244	3.3	17.2	1	-	-
	F	479	2.1	10.6	354	1.4	7.6	124	4.0	19.4	1	-	-
CROWLEY*	M	447	0.9	10.7	327	0.3	9.2	120	2.5	15.0	-	-	-
	F	253	2.0	10.7	147	0.7	9.5	106	3.8	12.3	-	-	-
	M	130	3.1	10.0	77	1.3	7.8	53	5.7	13.2	-	-	-
	F	123	0.8	11.4	70	-	11.4	53	1.9	11.3	-	-	-
ALLEN	M	322	0.9	7.5	244	0.4	6.6	69	2.9	11.6	9	-	-
	F	171	-	8.8	127	-	9.4	38	-	7.9	6	-	-
		151	2.0	6.0	117	0.9	3.4	31	6.5	16.1	3	-	-
ASCENSION	M	1218	2.5	8.4	900	2.0	7.8	307	3.9	10.1	11	-	9.1
	F	610	2.6	7.2	450	2.7	7.3	153	2.6	7.2	7	-	-
		608	2.3	9.5	450	1.3	8.2	154	5.2	13.0	4	-	25.0
ASSUMPTION	M	305	2.0	11.5	175	0.6	8.0	129	3.9	16.3	1	-	-
	F	151	2.0	9.9	88	1.1	8.0	62	3.2	12.9	1	-	-
		154	1.9	13.0	87	-	8.0	67	4.5	19.4	-	-	-
AVOYELLES	M	573	2.3	11.7	354	1.4	8.2	216	3.7	17.6	3	-	-
	F	307	1.6	9.4	187	0.5	3.7	118	3.4	18.6	2	-	-
		266	3.0	14.3	167	2.4	13.2	98	4.1	16.3	1	-	-
BEAUREGARD	M	475	0.8	7.6	408	1.0	6.6	59	-	15.3	8	-	-
	F	244	0.8	7.8	211	0.9	5.7	28	-	25.0	5	-	-
DE RIDDER*	M	231	0.9	7.4	197	1.0	7.6	31	-	6.5	3	-	-
	F	146	0.7	11.6	97	1.0	9.3	44	-	18.2	5	-	-
	M	79	1.3	11.4	56	1.8	5.4	20	-	30.0	3	-	-
	F	67	-	11.9	41	-	14.6	24	-	8.3	2	-	-
BIENVILLE	M	197	1.0	9.6	100	1.0	4.0	97	1.0	15.5	-	-	-
	F	109	0.9	10.1	59	1.7	3.4	50	-	18.0	-	-	-
		88	1.1	9.1	41	-	4.9	47	2.1	12.8	-	-	-
BOSSIER	M	1376	2.0	8.7	987	0.9	6.6	359	5.3	15.3	30	-	-
	F	696	1.6	8.2	499	1.2	7.2	182	2.7	11.5	15	-	-
BOSSIER CITY*	M	680	2.5	9.3	488	0.6	5.9	177	7.9	19.2	15	-	-
	F	830	1.7	7.2	569	0.7	5.3	237	4.2	12.7	24	-	-
	M	411	1.2	6.6	280	0.7	5.4	121	2.5	9.9	10	-	-
	F	419	2.1	7.9	289	0.7	5.2	116	6.0	15.5	14	-	-
CADDOW	M	3614	2.7	11.4	1601	1.1	7.7	1969	4.0	14.5	44	2.3	6.8
	F	1823	2.2	10.0	800	0.9	6.4	999	3.3	12.8	24	4.2	12.5
		1791	3.1	12.8	801	1.4	9.0	970	4.6	16.2	20	-	-
SHREVEPORT*	M	3083	2.8	11.4	1205	1.1	7.5	1840	3.9	14.1	38	2.6	5.3
	F	1550	2.3	10.1	600	0.8	6.5	931	3.2	12.5	19	5.3	10.5
		1533	3.3	12.7	605	1.3	8.4	909	4.6	15.7	19	-	-
CALCASIEU	M	2797	1.8	10.0	1943	1.2	7.8	833	3.1	15.1	21	4.8	14.3
	F	1444	1.9	9.3	1027	1.5	7.7	405	3.0	13.3	12	8.3	16.7
LAKE CHARLES*	M	1353	1.6	10.8	916	0.9	8.0	428	3.3	16.8	9	-	11.1
	F	1125	2.2	12.0	464	0.9	6.9	651	3.1	15.4	10	10.0	30.0
	M	552	2.4	11.1	228	0.9	7.0	317	3.2	13.6	7	14.3	28.6
	F	573	2.1	12.9	236	0.8	6.8	334	3.0	17.1	3	-	33.3
SULPHUR*	M	322	1.2	10.9	297	1.3	9.4	21	-	33.3	4	-	-
	F	161	1.9	10.6	153	2.0	9.8	6	-	33.3	2	-	-
		161	0.6	11.2	144	0.7	9.0	15	-	33.3	2	-	-

TABLE 2.10:
BIRTH WEIGHTS UNDER 1500 AND UNDER 2500 GRAMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS
BY PARISH AND CITY OF RESIDENCE, RACE OF MOTHER, AND SEX OF CHILD
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	SEX	ALL BIRTHS			WHITE			BLACK			OTHER		
		TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS
CALDWELL	M	132	-	5.3	102	-	2.9	30	-	13.3	-	-	-
	F	77	-	6.5	62	-	4.8	15	-	13.3	-	-	-
	F	55	-	3.6	40	-	-	15	-	13.3	-	-	-
CAMERON	M	110	-	13.6	103	-	14.6	7	-	-	-	-	-
	M	52	-	15.4	47	-	17.0	5	-	-	-	-	-
	F	58	-	12.1	56	-	12.5	2	-	-	-	-	-
CATAHOULA	M	169	0.6	11.8	112	0.9	11.6	57	-	12.3	-	-	-
	M	87	1.1	9.2	59	1.7	11.9	28	-	3.6	-	-	-
	F	82	-	14.6	53	-	11.3	29	-	20.7	-	-	-
CLAIBORNE	M	199	3.5	11.6	78	2.6	9.0	120	4.2	13.3	1	-	-
	M	111	3.6	10.8	46	-	4.3	65	6.2	15.4	-	-	-
	F	88	3.4	12.5	32	6.3	15.6	55	1.8	10.9	1	-	-
CONCORDIA	M	298	1.7	11.4	124	1.6	6.5	173	1.7	15.0	1	-	-
	M	153	2.0	11.8	58	-	3.4	95	3.2	16.8	-	-	-
	F	145	1.4	11.0	66	3.0	9.1	78	-	12.8	1	-	-
DESOTO	M	385	2.9	10.1	187	1.1	7.5	197	4.6	12.7	1	-	-
	M	181	3.3	8.8	88	1.1	8.0	92	5.4	9.8	1	-	-
	F	204	2.5	11.3	99	1.0	7.1	105	3.8	15.2	-	-	-
E BATON ROUGE	M	6058	2.8	10.6	2829	1.3	5.6	3067	4.3	15.5	162	0.6	4.9
	M	3059	2.6	9.7	1409	1.6	5.6	1565	3.6	13.7	85	1.2	5.9
	F	2999	2.9	11.5	1420	0.9	5.6	1502	4.9	17.4	77	-	3.9
BATON ROUGE*	M	4977	2.8	10.9	2052	0.8	5.2	2777	4.3	15.4	148	0.7	5.4
	M	2534	2.5	9.7	1043	1.2	5.3	1412	3.6	13.2	79	1.3	6.3
	F	2443	3.0	12.1	1009	0.4	5.2	1365	5.1	17.7	69	-	4.3
BAKER*	M	237	3.8	11.8	123	4.1	8.9	113	3.5	15.0	1	-	-
	M	133	5.3	12.8	69	5.8	10.1	64	4.7	15.6	-	-	-
	F	104	1.9	10.6	54	1.9	7.4	49	2.0	14.3	1	-	-
EAST CARROLL	M	177	2.3	13.0	40	-	10.0	137	2.9	13.9	-	-	-
	M	85	-	15.3	19	-	10.5	66	-	16.7	-	-	-
	F	92	4.3	10.9	21	-	9.5	71	5.6	11.3	-	-	-
E FELICIANA	M	290	1.4	9.7	133	-	6.0	156	2.6	12.8	1	-	-
	M	151	2.0	10.6	65	-	6.2	86	3.5	14.0	-	-	-
	F	139	0.7	8.6	68	-	5.9	70	1.4	11.4	1	-	-
EVANGELINE	M	585	1.5	13.7	382	1.0	9.7	203	2.5	21.2	-	-	-
	M	285	2.5	12.3	176	1.7	9.7	109	3.7	16.5	-	-	-
	F	300	0.7	15.0	206	0.5	9.7	94	1.1	26.6	-	-	-
FRANKLIN	M	323	0.9	10.5	184	0.5	7.1	139	1.4	15.1	-	-	-
	M	166	1.2	8.4	103	1.0	7.8	63	1.6	9.5	-	-	-
	F	157	0.6	12.7	81	-	6.2	76	1.3	19.7	-	-	-
GRANT	M	256	3.1	10.5	217	2.8	10.6	37	5.4	10.8	2	-	-
	M	128	2.3	9.4	111	2.7	9.9	16	-	6.3	1	-	-
	F	128	3.9	11.7	106	2.8	11.3	21	9.5	14.3	1	-	-
IBERIA	M	1265	1.4	8.5	722	1.1	6.5	515	1.9	11.7	28	-	3.6
	M	674	1.2	7.6	384	0.8	5.7	274	1.8	10.6	16	-	-
	F	591	1.7	9.6	338	1.5	7.4	241	2.1	12.9	12	-	8.3
NEW IBERIA*	M	688	1.2	8.4	345	1.2	6.7	322	1.2	10.6	21	-	4.8
	M	352	1.1	7.7	167	1.2	7.2	171	1.2	8.8	14	-	-
	F	336	1.2	9.2	178	1.1	6.2	151	1.3	12.6	7	-	14.3
IBERVILLE	M	509	1.4	12.6	215	1.4	9.3	293	1.4	15.0	1	-	-
	M	262	1.9	11.1	108	1.9	9.3	153	2.0	12.4	1	-	-
	F	247	0.8	14.2	107	0.9	9.3	140	0.7	17.9	-	-	-
JACKSON	M	210	4.8	12.4	147	3.4	10.9	63	7.9	15.9	-	-	-
	M	103	3.9	7.8	71	2.8	7.0	32	6.3	9.4	-	-	-
	F	107	5.6	16.8	76	3.9	14.5	31	9.7	22.6	-	-	-

TABLE 2.10:
BIRTH WEIGHTS UNDER 1500 AND UNDER 2500 GRAMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS
BY PARISH AND CITY OF RESIDENCE, RACE OF MOTHER, AND SEX OF CHILD
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	SEX	ALL BIRTHS			WHITE			BLACK			OTHER		
		TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS
JEFFERSON	M	6469	1.8	9.1	4075	0.9	6.4	2053	3.2	14.1	341	4.1	11.4
	F	3321	2.0	8.8	2084	0.8	6.4	1054	3.9	13.2	183	4.9	10.9
	F	3148	1.6	9.4	1991	1.0	6.3	999	2.5	15.1	158	3.2	12.0
KENNER*	M	1017	1.8	8.6	635	0.6	6.5	316	3.8	12.7	66	3.0	9.1
	M	524	1.7	7.8	329	0.6	6.1	164	4.3	10.4	31	-	12.9
	F	493	1.8	9.3	306	0.7	6.9	152	3.3	15.1	35	5.7	5.7
GRETNNA*	M	509	1.2	7.5	278	0.4	4.7	198	2.0	12.1	33	3.0	3.0
	M	289	1.4	6.2	156	-	3.2	114	2.6	10.5	19	5.3	5.3
	F	220	0.9	9.1	122	0.8	6.6	84	1.2	14.3	14	-	-
HARAHAN*	M	101	-	7.9	98	-	8.2	3	-	-	-	-	-
	M	46	-	13.0	45	-	13.3	1	-	-	-	-	-
	F	55	-	3.6	53	-	3.8	2	-	-	-	-	-
WESTWEGO*	M	199	2.5	9.0	112	0.9	7.1	74	2.7	10.8	13	15.4	15.4
	M	102	2.9	8.8	58	1.7	5.2	36	-	11.1	8	25.0	25.0
	F	97	2.1	9.3	54	-	9.3	38	5.3	10.5	5	-	-
JEFF DAVIS	M	492	2.6	8.3	372	2.2	6.2	112	4.5	15.2	8	-	12.5
	M	253	1.6	7.9	195	1.5	5.6	55	1.8	14.5	3	-	33.3
	F	239	3.8	8.8	177	2.8	6.8	57	7.0	15.8	5	-	-
JENNINGS*	M	205	2.0	7.3	136	1.5	2.9	66	3.0	16.7	3	-	-
	M	100	1.0	6.0	69	-	1.4	30	3.3	16.7	1	-	-
	F	105	2.9	8.6	67	3.0	4.5	36	2.8	16.7	2	-	-
LAFAYETTE	M	2964	2.4	10.9	1990	1.4	7.0	917	4.6	19.6	57	1.8	5.3
	M	1515	2.0	9.4	1022	1.4	6.5	460	3.5	16.5	33	-	3.0
	F	1449	2.8	12.4	968	1.4	7.6	457	5.7	22.8	24	4.2	8.3
LAFAYETTE*	M	1781	2.5	11.9	1053	0.9	6.5	693	4.9	20.3	35	2.9	8.6
	M	919	2.4	10.6	544	1.3	6.3	355	4.2	17.5	20	-	5.0
	F	862	2.7	13.3	509	0.6	6.7	338	5.6	23.4	15	6.7	13.3
LAFOURCHE	M	1305	1.8	8.5	1005	1.8	7.7	260	1.9	12.3	40	2.5	5.0
	M	662	1.5	6.8	511	1.6	6.7	130	0.8	6.9	21	4.8	9.5
	F	643	2.2	10.3	494	2.0	8.7	130	3.1	17.7	19	-	-
THIBODAUX*	M	297	0.7	6.4	160	0.6	4.4	136	0.7	8.8	1	-	-
	M	153	-	3.3	82	-	2.4	70	-	4.3	1	-	-
	F	144	1.4	9.7	78	1.3	6.4	66	1.5	13.6	-	-	-
LASALLE	M	199	2.5	8.5	176	1.7	7.4	23	8.7	17.4	-	-	-
	M	97	2.1	5.2	87	1.1	3.4	10	10.0	20.0	-	-	-
	F	102	2.9	11.8	89	2.2	11.2	13	7.7	15.4	-	-	-
LINCOLN	M	549	2.0	7.7	252	0.8	4.4	287	3.1	10.5	10	-	10.0
	M	271	1.5	5.9	125	-	2.4	140	2.9	8.6	6	-	16.7
	F	278	2.5	9.4	127	1.6	6.3	147	3.4	12.2	4	-	-
RUSTON*	M	288	2.1	8.7	97	1.0	8.2	182	2.7	9.3	9	-	-
	M	139	1.4	5.8	44	-	4.5	90	2.2	6.7	5	-	-
	F	149	2.7	11.4	53	1.9	11.3	92	3.3	12.0	4	-	-
LIVINGSTON	M	1386	1.5	7.2	1280	1.5	6.2	100	2.0	21.0	6	-	-
	M	705	1.1	7.2	649	1.2	6.5	52	-	17.3	4	-	-
	F	681	1.9	7.2	631	1.7	5.9	48	4.2	25.0	2	-	-
MADISON	M	216	2.3	8.3	53	-	3.8	163	3.1	9.8	-	-	-
	M	112	0.9	8.0	31	-	3.2	81	1.2	9.9	-	-	-
	F	104	3.8	8.7	22	-	4.5	82	4.9	9.8	-	-	-

TABLE 2.10:
BIRTH WEIGHTS UNDER 1500 AND UNDER 2500 GRAMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS
BY PARISH AND CITY OF RESIDENCE, RACE OF MOTHER, AND SEX OF CHILD
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	SEX	ALL BIRTHS			WHITE			BLACK			OTHER		
		TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS
TALLULAH*	M	178	2.8	8.4	33	-	3.0	145	3.4	9.7	-	-	-
	F	91	1.1	7.7	19	-	-	72	1.4	9.7	-	-	-
	F	87	4.6	9.2	14	-	7.1	73	5.5	9.6	-	-	-
MOREHOUSE	M	510	3.1	11.6	209	1.0	8.1	301	4.7	14.0	-	-	-
	M	262	2.7	9.5	113	0.9	8.8	149	4.0	10.1	-	-	-
	F	248	3.6	13.7	96	1.0	7.3	152	5.3	17.8	-	-	-
BASTROP*	M	311	3.5	12.9	84	1.2	8.3	227	4.4	14.5	-	-	-
	M	157	3.2	10.8	42	2.4	9.5	115	3.5	11.3	-	-	-
	F	154	3.9	14.9	42	-	7.1	112	5.4	17.9	-	-	-
NATCHITOCHES	M	604	1.8	9.3	312	1.3	7.1	288	2.4	11.5	4	-	25.0
	M	283	3.2	10.2	139	2.2	8.6	143	4.2	11.9	1	-	-
	F	321	0.6	8.4	173	0.6	5.8	145	0.7	11.0	3	-	33.3
NATCHITOCHES*	M	314	2.2	11.1	104	1.9	8.7	208	2.4	12.0	2	-	50.0
	M	153	3.9	11.8	49	2.0	10.2	104	4.8	12.5	-	-	-
	F	161	0.6	10.6	55	1.8	7.3	104	-	11.5	2	-	50.0
ORLEANS	M	7573	3.0	12.9	1302	1.1	6.7	6062	3.5	14.4	209	0.5	8.1
	M	3839	2.8	11.7	666	0.9	5.6	3058	3.3	13.2	115	-	7.8
	F	3734	3.2	14.0	636	1.3	7.9	3004	3.7	15.5	94	1.1	8.5
OUACHITA	M	2319	2.2	9.5	1265	1.1	5.9	1035	3.7	13.9	19	-	5.3
	M	1192	2.3	8.9	666	1.2	5.9	515	3.9	13.0	11	-	-
	F	1127	2.1	10.1	599	1.0	6.0	520	3.5	14.8	8	-	12.5
MONROE*	M	1161	3.0	11.9	281	0.4	4.6	869	3.9	14.3	11	-	9.1
	M	571	3.0	10.7	132	0.8	3.8	433	3.7	12.9	6	-	-
	F	590	3.1	13.1	149	-	5.4	436	4.1	15.6	5	-	20.0
WEST MONROE*	M	408	1.7	9.3	315	1.6	7.6	88	2.3	15.9	5	-	-
	M	218	2.3	8.7	170	1.8	7.1	43	4.7	16.3	5	-	-
	F	190	1.1	10.0	145	1.4	8.3	45	-	15.6	-	-	-
PLAQUEMINES	M	366	0.5	8.7	244	0.4	8.2	103	1.0	11.7	19	-	-
	M	181	1.1	5.0	119	0.8	5.9	51	2.0	3.9	11	-	-
	F	185	-	12.4	125	-	10.4	52	-	19.2	8	-	-
POINTE COUPEE	M	331	2.4	7.6	176	0.6	3.4	155	4.5	12.3	-	-	-
	M	169	3.0	7.1	90	-	1.1	79	6.3	13.9	-	-	-
	F	162	1.9	8.0	86	1.2	5.8	76	2.6	10.5	-	-	-
RAPIDES	M	1928	2.6	11.1	1111	1.6	7.5	795	4.0	16.4	22	-	4.5
	M	991	2.8	10.8	573	1.6	7.2	409	4.6	16.1	9	-	-
	F	937	2.3	11.4	538	1.7	7.8	386	3.4	16.6	13	-	7.7
ALEXANDRIA*	M	864	3.0	14.7	260	1.2	9.2	594	3.9	17.2	10	-	10.0
	M	452	3.5	14.8	139	0.7	12.2	308	4.9	16.2	5	-	-
	F	412	2.4	14.6	121	1.7	5.8	286	2.8	18.2	5	-	20.0
PINEVILLE*	M	236	1.3	8.5	159	1.3	6.9	71	1.4	12.7	6	-	-
	M	114	-	8.8	74	-	5.4	38	-	15.8	2	-	-
	F	122	2.5	8.2	85	2.4	8.2	33	3.0	9.1	4	-	-
RED RIVER	M	123	-	8.9	65	-	7.7	58	-	10.3	-	-	-
	M	57	-	5.3	34	-	8.8	23	-	-	-	-	-
	F	66	-	12.1	31	-	6.5	35	-	17.1	-	-	-
RICHLAND	M	368	1.1	9.8	186	1.6	9.7	179	0.6	10.1	3	-	-
	M	185	1.1	5.9	91	2.2	5.5	92	-	6.5	2	-	-
	F	183	1.1	13.7	95	1.1	13.7	87	1.1	13.8	1	-	-
SABINE	M	302	1.7	8.3	215	0.5	7.0	72	5.6	12.5	15	-	6.7
	M	144	0.7	6.3	104	-	5.8	32	3.1	9.4	8	-	-
	F	158	2.5	10.1	111	0.9	8.1	40	7.5	15.0	7	-	14.3

TABLE 2.10:
BIRTH WEIGHTS UNDER 1500 AND UNDER 2500 GRAMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS
BY PARISH AND CITY OF RESIDENCE, RACE OF MOTHER, AND SEX OF CHILD
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	SEX	ALL BIRTHS			WHITE			BLACK			OTHER		
		TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS
ST BERNARD	M	859	1.4	7.6	753	1.1	6.8	83	4.8	15.7	23	-	4.3
	M	441	1.1	7.0	382	0.5	6.0	43	7.0	16.3	16	-	6.3
	F	418	1.7	8.1	371	1.6	7.5	40	2.5	15.0	7	-	-
ST CHARLES	M	713	2.1	8.4	487	1.2	7.2	215	3.7	10.7	11	9.1	18.2
	M	380	1.6	7.1	266	1.1	6.4	111	2.7	9.0	3	-	-
	F	333	2.7	9.9	221	1.4	8.1	104	4.8	12.5	8	12.5	25.0
ST HELENA	M	79	1.3	7.6	37	-	-	42	2.4	14.3	-	-	-
	M	44	2.3	11.4	19	-	-	25	4.0	20.0	-	-	-
	F	35	-	2.9	18	-	-	17	-	5.9	-	-	-
ST JAMES	M	313	2.9	13.1	118	1.7	10.2	195	3.6	14.9	-	-	-
	M	148	2.7	12.8	56	1.8	12.5	92	3.3	13.0	-	-	-
	F	165	3.0	13.3	62	1.6	8.1	103	3.9	16.5	-	-	-
ST JOHN	M	708	2.7	11.2	353	3.1	12.2	349	2.3	10.3	6	-	-
	M	372	2.2	7.5	186	2.2	6.5	181	2.2	8.8	5	-	-
	F	336	3.3	15.2	167	4.2	18.6	168	2.4	11.9	1	-	-
ST LANDRY	M	1457	2.0	10.9	733	0.5	6.1	720	3.5	15.7	4	-	25.0
	M	755	2.0	10.2	384	0.3	4.9	369	3.8	15.7	2	-	-
	F	702	2.0	11.7	349	0.9	7.4	351	3.1	15.7	2	-	50.0
OPELOUSAS*	M	460	2.8	13.7	99	-	5.1	359	3.6	16.2	2	-	-
	M	251	3.2	13.5	56	-	5.4	193	4.1	16.1	2	-	-
	F	209	2.4	13.9	43	-	4.7	166	3.0	16.3	-	-	-
EUNICE*	M	212	2.8	12.3	137	2.2	9.5	75	4.0	17.3	-	-	-
	M	99	2.0	10.1	65	1.5	7.7	34	2.9	14.7	-	-	-
	F	113	3.5	14.2	72	2.8	11.1	41	4.9	19.5	-	-	-
ST MARTIN	M	752	1.9	8.9	425	0.7	7.3	317	3.5	11.0	10	-	10.0
	M	403	1.2	7.9	228	-	7.0	171	2.9	9.4	4	-	-
	F	349	2.6	10.0	197	1.5	7.6	146	4.1	13.0	6	-	16.7
ST MARY	M	929	1.7	9.1	558	0.9	5.9	332	3.3	15.1	39	-	5.1
	M	458	2.0	8.3	265	0.4	4.2	170	4.7	14.7	23	-	8.7
	F	471	1.5	10.0	293	1.4	7.5	162	1.9	15.4	16	-	-
MORGAN CITY*	M	302	1.7	8.9	206	0.5	5.8	87	4.6	16.1	9	-	11.1
	M	150	2.0	7.3	100	-	3.0	46	6.5	15.2	4	-	25.0
	F	152	1.3	10.5	106	0.9	8.5	41	2.4	17.1	5	-	-
ST TAMMANY	M	2606	1.3	7.3	2201	1.0	6.4	370	2.7	13.0	35	-	5.7
	M	1328	1.4	6.6	1118	1.2	5.8	189	2.6	11.6	21	-	4.8
	F	1278	1.2	8.1	1083	0.9	7.0	181	2.8	14.4	14	-	7.1
SLIDELL*	M	525	1.3	9.7	426	1.2	9.2	92	2.2	12.0	7	-	14.3
	M	266	2.3	11.3	217	2.3	11.1	46	2.2	10.9	3	-	33.3
	F	259	0.4	8.1	209	-	7.2	46	2.2	13.0	4	-	-
TANGIPAHOA	M	1616	2.0	10.1	947	1.0	6.2	654	3.7	15.7	15	-	13.3
	M	804	2.0	8.5	469	0.6	4.5	325	4.0	13.8	10	-	20.0
	F	812	2.1	11.8	478	1.3	7.9	329	3.3	17.6	5	-	-
HAMMOND*	M	333	3.0	12.0	131	0.8	6.1	196	4.6	16.3	6	-	-
	M	155	3.9	12.9	56	-	3.6	96	6.3	18.8	3	-	-
	F	178	2.2	11.2	75	1.3	8.0	100	3.0	14.0	3	-	-
TENSAS	M	94	2.1	8.5	26	-	-	68	2.9	11.8	-	-	-
	M	54	-	3.7	15	-	-	39	-	5.1	-	-	-
	F	40	5.0	15.0	11	-	-	29	6.9	20.7	-	-	-
TERREBONNE	M	1693	1.5	11.0	1179	1.4	9.0	367	2.5	19.1	147	-	7.5
	M	846	1.4	10.4	586	1.2	7.5	185	2.7	22.2	75	-	4.0
	F	847	1.7	11.7	593	1.7	10.5	182	2.2	15.9	72	-	11.1

TABLE 2.10:
BIRTH WEIGHTS UNDER 1500 AND UNDER 2500 GRAMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL BIRTHS
BY PARISH AND CITY OF RESIDENCE, RACE OF MOTHER, AND SEX OF CHILD
LOUISIANA, 1998

PARISH AND LARGER CITIES	SEX	ALL BIRTHS			WHITE			BLACK			OTHER		
		TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS	TOTAL	LT 1500 GRAMS	LT 2500 GRAMS
HOUma*	M	896	2.1	12.2	570	2.3	9.5	261	2.3	19.5	65	-	6.2
	M	470	1.7	11.7	291	1.7	6.9	145	2.1	22.8	34	-	5.9
	F	426	2.6	12.7	279	2.9	12.2	116	2.6	15.5	31	-	6.5
UNION	M	320	2.2	11.9	209	1.9	9.6	111	2.7	16.2	-	-	-
	M	171	2.9	11.7	102	2.0	7.8	69	4.3	17.4	-	-	-
	F	149	1.3	12.1	107	1.9	11.2	42	-	14.3	-	-	-
VERMILION	M	824	1.2	8.5	631	1.0	6.5	173	2.3	15.6	20	-	10.0
	M	410	1.2	7.6	316	0.9	6.3	86	2.3	12.8	8	-	-
	F	414	1.2	9.4	315	1.0	6.7	87	2.3	18.4	12	-	16.7
ABBEVILLE*	M	272	2.2	10.3	124	1.6	4.8	135	3.0	14.8	13	-	15.4
	M	131	1.5	8.4	59	-	5.1	68	2.9	11.8	4	-	-
	F	141	2.8	12.1	65	3.1	4.6	67	3.0	17.9	9	-	22.2
VERNON	M	945	1.7	7.3	715	1.5	6.0	186	2.7	10.8	44	-	13.6
	M	494	1.6	5.9	380	1.6	5.5	97	2.1	6.2	17	-	11.8
	F	451	1.8	8.9	335	1.5	6.6	89	3.4	15.7	27	-	14.8
WASHINGTON	M	681	2.9	12.9	414	1.7	7.0	266	4.9	21.8	1	-	100.0
	M	356	3.1	12.6	208	1.9	7.2	148	4.7	20.3	-	-	-
	F	325	2.8	13.2	206	1.5	6.8	118	5.1	23.7	1	-	100.0
BOGALUSA*	M	229	3.1	15.7	120	0.8	9.2	109	5.5	22.9	-	-	-
	M	122	2.5	16.4	60	1.7	13.3	62	3.2	19.4	-	-	-
	F	107	3.7	15.0	60	-	5.0	47	8.5	27.7	-	-	-
WEBSTER	M	591	2.9	9.8	349	1.1	6.3	241	5.4	14.9	1	-	-
	M	316	2.8	9.8	187	1.6	5.9	128	4.7	15.6	1	-	-
	F	275	2.9	9.8	162	0.6	6.8	113	6.2	14.2	-	-	-
MINDEN*	M	222	4.5	13.5	93	-	8.6	129	7.8	17.1	-	-	-
	M	119	4.2	12.6	51	-	7.8	68	7.4	16.2	-	-	-
	F	103	4.9	14.6	42	-	9.5	61	8.2	18.0	-	-	-
W BATON ROUGE	M	337	0.9	7.7	198	0.5	4.5	138	1.4	12.3	1	-	-
	M	177	1.1	7.3	105	1.0	6.7	71	1.4	8.5	1	-	-
	F	160	0.6	8.1	93	-	2.2	67	1.5	16.4	-	-	-
WEST CARROLL	M	159	1.3	9.4	118	1.7	5.9	40	-	20.0	1	-	-
	M	88	2.3	8.0	65	3.1	6.2	22	-	13.6	1	-	-
	F	71	-	11.3	53	-	5.7	18	-	27.8	-	-	-
W FELICIANA	M	114	2.6	7.0	69	2.9	5.8	45	2.2	8.9	-	-	-
	M	67	3.0	6.0	44	2.3	6.8	23	4.3	4.3	-	-	-
	F	47	2.1	8.5	25	4.0	4.0	22	-	13.6	-	-	-
WINN	M	210	1.9	12.9	134	1.5	9.0	73	2.7	17.8	3	-	66.7
	M	105	1.9	9.5	69	1.4	10.1	36	2.8	8.3	-	-	-
	F	105	1.9	16.2	65	1.5	7.7	37	2.7	27.0	3	-	66.7

*CITIES INCLUDED IN PARISH TOTALS

